Center for Languages & Intercultural Communication

JAPA 141 **First-Year Japanese I**

Fall 2015 (3 Credits)

Instructor: Naoko Ozaki
Office: 124 Rayzor Hall
Office Phone: 713-348-8203
Office Hours: Wednesday 2:15 – 4:15 or By appointment
E-mail: naoko.ozaki@rice.edu

CRN	14114	14390	14335
Section	001	003	002
Class Time	9:00 – 9:50 am	11:00 – 11:50 am	1:00 – 1:50 pm
Classroom	Rayzor Hall 113	Rayzor Hall 121	Rayzor Hall 113

Required Books:

- Genki I: An integrated course in elementary Japanese, 2nd edition (ISBN 9784789014403)
- Genki I Workbook, 2nd edition (ISBN 9784789014410)

Goal:

- This class is designed to help you learn to write some basic characters (hiragana, katakana, and basic 43 kanji characters) and acquire basic levels of four skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. You will be able to develop interactional competence in Japanese (sociolinguistic and sociocultural knowledge) to communicate and interact with speakers of Japanese. The course is based on a student-centered, critical-thinking approach to language analysis and acquisition. No prior knowledge of this language is necessary.

Structure:

- You are expected to come to each class prepared to fully participate in activities and practice. Each class starts with brief review of the last class, followed by the new materials and practice. During the practice time, we will use **only Japanese**.
- You are strongly encouraged to attend the language table and to visit the tutor.

Grades:

- The weight of the grades is as follows:

Class attendance and performance	20%
Assignments	20%
Quizzes	25%
Exams	15%
Final exam	20%

- I (incomplete) will be only given to students whose work is satisfactory until the end of the semester but who can't complete the course due to illness or personal issues verified by the academic advisor.
- You are also advised to keep all of the graded/returned assignments, quizzes, and exams. They become your proof of your grades as well as your study guide for the following sections and chapters.
- Performance in class will be assessed using the following scale:

A+	99-100	B+	88-89	C+	78-79	D+	68-69
A	94-98	B	84-87	C	74-77	D	64-67
A-	90-93	B-	80-83	C-	70-73	D-	60-63

Class Attendance and Performance:

- You are expected to be active learners. This means that you come to class prepared and participate in class. Your participation contributes to the learning of all, and it is required to earn full points for the day. Simply attending class will lead to a low performance grade.

4 points	Well-prepared, excellent/good performance AND Being in class on time and until the end
3 points	Well-prepared, passing performance OR Well-prepared but missing 3 minutes of the class period
2 points	Evidence of prepared but not at a satisfactory level OR Well-prepared but missing 3 to 25 minutes of the class period
1 point	Present, but not prepared OR Well-prepared but missing more than 25 minutes of the class period
0 point	Absent

- Only medical absences and school-organized events such as athletes' scheduled games will be excused.
- You can miss up to three class sessions (excused absences) without penalty.
- After three unexcused absences, you need to make an appointment to come and see me in person to talk about your progress.
- If you need to miss a class, please be sure to contact the instructor via e-mail in advance.

Assignments:

- The assignments are due at the beginning of each class session. Late assignments are only accepted before or at the beginning of the next class session and will be deducted 10%. Assignments submitted later than the following class session will be corrected but not graded unless you have medical or school-related excuses for late submission.
- Please do your assignments on a piece of paper (not in your workbook) --- in neat handwriting, double-spaced, and in pencil. No typed assignments are accepted.

Exams and Quizzes:

- You will have four chapter exams and a final exam. Each exam is comprehensive up to the point and includes all characters, grammar patterns, and vocabulary from the previous chapters. You have one hour for each exam. You can leave the class when you are done.
- Make-up exams are only given when you have medical emergencies or school-organized events excluding parties.
    - If you have an unforeseen emergency on the day of the exam, you must contact the instructor ASAP or BEFORE you miss the scheduled time for the exam to make other arrangements. Make-ups will only be allowed if you contact the instructor (by phone, e-mail, or in person).
    - For school-related events, including away-games for athletes but excluding parties, it is <u>your</u> responsibility to contact the instructor to make arrangements prior to the scheduled exam.
- There will be a total of 19 quizzes. These quizzes are designed to help you be prepared for class performance. Only the highest 17 quiz scores will be applied toward your final grade. In other words, you can drop the lowest 2 quiz scores. There will be **<u>NO</u>** make-up quizzes. Consider your missed quiz is one of the two lowest quiz scores you will drop.

Tutor and Language Table

- Visit the tutor and attend language table as often as you can. They will provide you with great opportunities to speak Japanese.
- The tutor is there to help you practice and study the Japanese language. S/he speaks English, but try to only speak in Japanese. The tutor will help you, but s/he is asked not to explain the grammar. You also need to do your own assignments. If you have questions about the grammar patterns taught in class, please talk with the instructor.

Community Outreach and Involvement

- Consider opportunities to be participating citizens of the society outside of the university environment. Be creative in ways to contribute to the society. We will talk about such opportunities in class. If you have ideas, please share them with the class.

Communication with your instructor

- E-mail is the best way to communicate with your instructor. Consider this to be an excellent opportunity to practice writing polite messages. For example, your e-mail should start with a greeting line such as "Sensee, konnichiwa" or "Ozaki-sensee, ohayoo gozaimasu". Pay attention to capitalization. Conclude your e-mail with proper greetings and your name at the end, such as "arigatoo gozaimasu. (*Your Name*)".
- Some of you may find the instructor on social media; however, please wait until you graduate before you send a friend request.

Class policies:

- Do not eat food in this class unless there is permission from the instructor in advance. This is a language class, and you are often expected to speak. Chewing gum is also not allowed in this class. Drinks are allowed as long as it is in a bottle or there is a lid.
- Do not chew cinnamon gum or wear perfume with spice before coming to the class. Your instructor is severely allergic to cinnamon!
- **Respect** fellow classmates and your instructor. When you receive graded assignments, quizzes, or exams, **do not throw them away in front of your instructor.** This is extremely important especially when studying Japanese. You will learn other culturally sensitive customs and practices throughout the semester. Enjoy learning them and applying them as much as you can.

Rice Honor Code:

In this course, all students will be held to the standards of the Rice Honor Code, a code that you pledged to honor when you matriculated at this institution. If you are unfamiliar with the details of this code and how it is administered, you should consult the Honor System Handbook at http://honor.rice.edu/honor-system-handbook/. This handbook outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of your academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process.

Disability Support Services:

If you have a documented disability or other condition that may affect academic performance you should: 1) make sure this documentation is on file with Disability Support Services (Allen Center, Room 111 / adarice@rice.edu / x5841) to determine the accommodations you need; and 2) talk with me to discuss your accommodation needs.

Syllabus Change Policy:

This syllabus is only a guide for the course and is subject to change with advanced notice.